

REMARKS

A telephone conference between the Examiner and Mr. Theo Kountotsis (one of Applicants' patent agents) was held on July 13, 2004. The Applicants and Mr. Kountotsis wish to thank the Examiner for his time and consideration for the telephone conference.

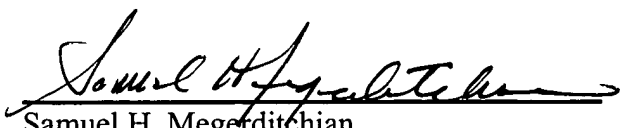
The telephone conference was initiated because the instant Office Action appears to be a duplicate of an Office Action mailed on May 4, 2004. Applicants responded to the May 4th Office Action on May 10, 2004. During the telephone conference, the Examiner confirmed that the instant Office Action was sent in error and was merely a duplicate of the May 4th Office Action. Therefore, it was agreed that Applicants need not respond to the May 18th Office Action.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have made a diligent effort to provide information as required by the Examiner. Early and favorable reconsideration of this information and the claimed invention are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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